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62.17

1915

1915 CATALOGUE

D. H. GILBERT

GROWER OF

WATERMELONS

EXPRESSLY FOR SEED

MONTICELLO, FLORIDA

62.17

FAMOUS "EXCEL"  
(See Inside)



**F**RIENDS: I am a farmer's son and followed the plow. I grew up among farmers and gardeners, and very early learned that high-grade, selected seeds were absolutely necessary for the best success. I have followed seed growing and seed selling for fifteen years, and I think I know my business. I am in position to fill your orders promptly and with care. I will give you good measure and best seeds. I have the very best shipping facilities, and I am sure I can give you far better discounts than you would get elsewhere. There is a reason for this: your money does not go to pay for bulky catalogues, city clerks and costly advertising. I am not a "city seedsman;" I am situated among the farmers and gardeners. My business shows that my seeds and efforts have both been a success and are appreciated by those who know what good seeds are. I will say, I put the real value inside the bags—serving all honestly with selected seeds at the lowest possible price. I personally attend to your orders. I read your letters and sympathize with you in all your plans for success. I know your success is mine also, and I can not afford to have you dissatisfied. You will not find in my catalogue seeds of unreliable quality and vitality. But instead you will find only the best, tried and true, honestly raised, home-grown, carefully tested, and warranted to please.

Please send in your orders as early as possible—before the rush—while my stock is complete, and you will be sure to have the seeds on hand when needed.

Please hand out all extra catalogues you may receive to friends needing seeds.

#### WARRANTY.

I exercise great care in selection, and keeping pure and reliable stocks, and my warranty is that my seeds are as good as can be produced, and upon receipt of the seeds, if not entirely satisfactory, you may return them and I will refund your money.

Wishing you a happy and prosperous year, I am,

Faithfully yours,

D. H. GILBERT,  
Monticello, Florida.

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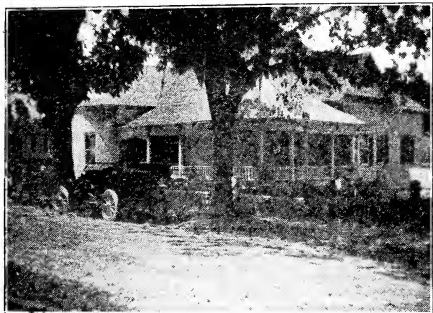
**D. H. GILBERT : Monticello, Florida : SEED GROWER**

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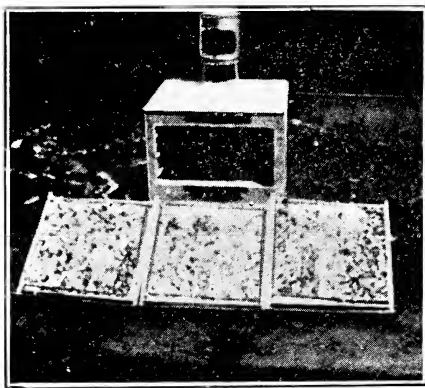
**D. H. Gilbert.**



**Residence D. H. Gilbert, Monticello, Fla.**

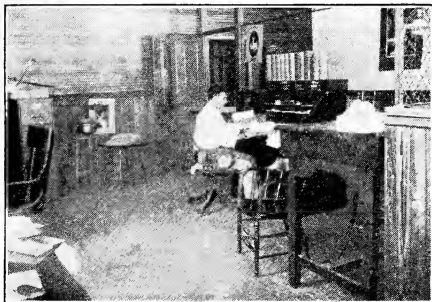


**Private Office.**  
From this office your letters are answered.



**Test Trays.**

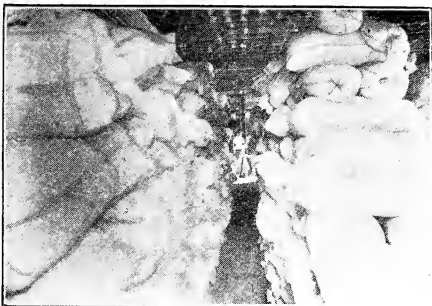
Every lot of seed must show a high germination test before it's used. This is a special seed tester. A special mill is also used for recleaning.



Filing reports of crops after final inspection. This is how I keep up with the standard of purity of the different varieties. Rigid selection of seed stock each year.

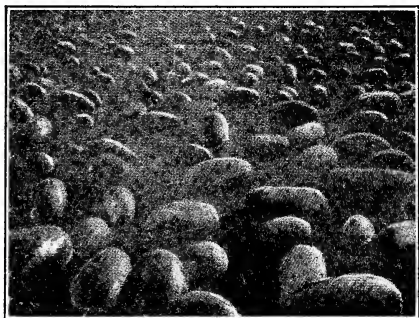


This view shows seed as delivered from the farms, and carried by elevator to top floor, then poured through a shoot which carries it to the mill below, and re-cleaned, all light and impure seed, dirt and other impurities removed.



This view shows seed that has been re-cleaned, weighed and tested for germination, stored on first floor, ready for shipment, each lot labeled for ready reference to stock book, showing record of purity and germination. Photograph shows 104,000 pounds.

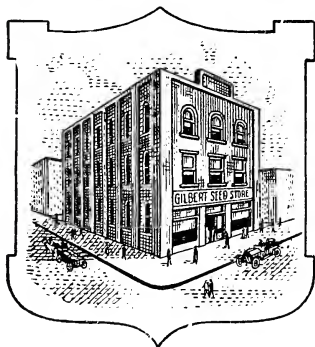
I grow Watermelons expressly for seed.



View showing one of my trial patches, from which I select seed stock only from melons that are perfect in every particular.



View showing selected melons for seed stock. After the perfect melons have been selected for seed, they are collected from the field and again inspected before seeded.



Showing a small view of the Offices and Warehouse Building.

Please don't overlook the fact that I have made seed growing a life study, and know the business in every detail. You can not make a mistake buying melon seed from me.



## WHY?

1899 I launched the seed growing business that now is known to the wholesale trade the world over, and for eleven years I confined my business principally to the growing of watermelon seed for the wholesale trade, and have supplied more than 150,000 pounds in a single year. Growing the seed under these conditions necessitated doing so at a very small margin of profit, and from year to year the grower's price was ground down so low that it finally became unattractive to accept contracts and supply best seeds. Many so-called seed growers would offer to grow seed at a price much lower than first-class seed can be produced, and naturally I looked for other channels through which to sell my seed product, and for two years my sales direct to the planters was very limited; but as I learned more about how to reach them and tell them about this business, and how very particular I am about my stocks, and the method I practice in growing the different varieties and saving the seed, and the success of those who planted them, my orders increased very rapidly, and today my name is known in connection with **watermelons and watermelon seed** the world over. It is very gratifying to tell you that I supplied direct to the planters last season more than 45,000 pounds of watermelon seed, and hope to increase that amount for 1915, for I feel sure the results were so satisfactory that I would get the orders even though I asked twice the price for seed.

I want to say right here that I have made extensive trials with seed grown in other sections and states, with the view of ascertaining the quality as compared with seed grown in this section, and the result of every trial was decidedly in favor of seed grown right here in Jefferson county, on soil naturally adapted to the melon—sandy loam and clay subsoil—and it produces the largest and finest melons in the world. I also want to tell you that I grow in other sections of the state and Georgia about 2,500 acres melons each year for market, and I use my own seed exclusively. I bear the reputation of sending the finest melons that reach the markets.

Please read the few of many testimonials which come from all over the country. I am very proud indeed to know that my efforts to produce the very best seeds have been a success, and that it has given universal satisfaction.

I thank you, dear friends, one and all for your liberal patronage. I know it is my earnest desire to prove myself worthy of the trust reposed in me by sending out only seeds that will be a source of satisfaction to all.

D. H. GILBERT.

# CULTURE

These suggestions are directed to the southern states, other (northern and western) states will be governed by conditions peculiar to their particular section.

Select sandy loam soil (which is preferable) at the proper season (which is as early as conditions will permit), prepare the land by breaking flush, using judgment as to the depth to plow. If porous sandy soil plow as shallow as can, and do the work well; if loam with clay subsoil plow deep, and if the land is not unusually rough, do not harrow, leaving it rough in reason for the vines to cling in case of wind storms. Where land is level and can be cultivated two ways, check in rows 10x10 feet, merely marking one way, but good deep furrow the other way, that the fertilizer will be well covered. For porous sandy soil use 500 to 800 pounds fertilizer per acre, analyzing about 7 per cent phosphoric acid, 7 per cent potash, 5 per cent ammonia, and for loam with clay subsoil, the same amount, but analyzing about 8 per cent available phosphoric acid, 6 per cent potash, 4 per cent ammonia, preferably made from nitrate of soda, cotton seed meal, dried blood, superphosphate, muriate and sulphate of potash. Most of the fertilizer factories are, however, prepared to supply a good mixture from their regular brands. Better results to use two applications, applying about two-thirds the amount before planting, and balance as the vines begin to run. On land that will not permit cultivating two ways, suggest to lay off rows 12 feet apart, use a distributor and put the fertilizer all along, and plant the seed 8 feet apart in drill, and after the plants are strong, thin to one in each hill, cultivate shallow and fast. There is no particular method of cultivation that is much the best, simply keep the weeds and grass from appearing by constantly stirring the soil, and it is not well to turn the vines, not that it will greatly injure the plant, but sure to delay setting of fruit.

Requires about one and one-half pounds of seed to plant one acre, using four to six seed to each hill.

To successfully grow watermelons it is absolutely necessary to have good seed.

## SHIPPING WATERMELONS

I beg to offer a few suggestions about grading and loading watermelons for best market results.

The melons should be carefully handled while being placed at convenient places in the field for the wagons, should be carefully handed to the one in the wagon and not thrown; wagons should be well bedded with straw or sawdust, also the cars should have heavy bedding, and paper for sides, and use cars entirely free from lime or acids.

In loading the melons there should be four grades, as follows: Grade culls, melons weighing under 20 pounds; grade No. 3, melons weighing 20 to 24 pounds; grade No. 2, melons weighing 25 to 30 pounds; grade No. 1, melons weighing over 30 pounds. In packing never allow the end of one melon to go hard against the end of others, lay them down lightly in tiers of four melons deep over the car, excepting grade culls, which should be loaded five deep, to get the minimum 24,000 pounds load. Count per tier by grades if properly packed: Culls, 12 and 13; No. 3, 11 and 12; No. 2, 9 and 10; No. 1, 8 and 9. If these rules are strictly observed there will be no such complaint as large per cent decays on arrival at the markets. The season just past should be an object lesson and teach us not to be careless in handling the melons; thousands of dollars were lost last season on account of improper handling, packing and grading.

### NOTICE

#### United States Parcel Post Rates and Limit by Zones

The weight limit for parcels for delivery within the first and second zones, or within a radius of 150 miles, is 50 pounds. The weight limit to points over 150 miles or outside of the first and second zones is 20 pounds.

The rate in the first and second zones is 5 cents for the first pound, and 1 cent for each additional pound, up to 50 pounds.

The rate in the third zone is 6 cents for the first pound, and 2 cents for each additional pound up to 20 pounds.

The rate in the fourth zone is 7 cents for the first pound, and 4 cents for each additional pound up to 20 pounds.

The rate in the fifth zone is 8 cents for the first pound, and 6 cents for each additional pound up to 20 pounds.

The rate in the sixth zone is 9 cents for the first pound, and 8 cents for each additional pound up to 20 pounds.

First and second zones up to 150 miles.

Third zone, over 150 to 300 miles.

Fourth zone, over 300 to 600 miles.

Fifth zone, over 600 to 1,000 miles.

Sixth zone, over 1,000 to 1,400 miles.

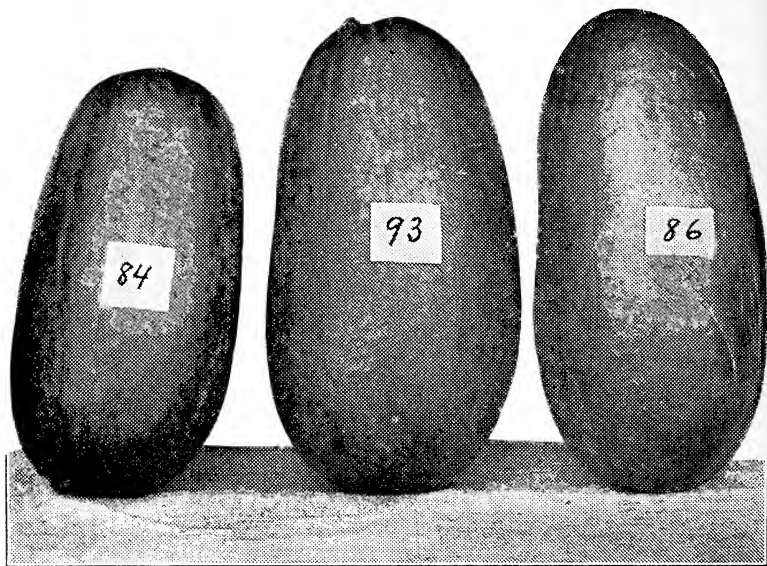
First and second zones—1 pound, 5 cents; 50 pounds, 54 cents.

Third zone—1 pound, 6 cents; 20 pounds, 44 cents.

Fourth zone—1 pound, 7 cents; 20 pounds, 83 cents.

Fifth zone—1 pound, 8 cents; 20 pounds, \$1.22.

Sixth zone—1 pound, 9 cents; 20 pounds, \$1.61.



**New Watermelon "Excel."**

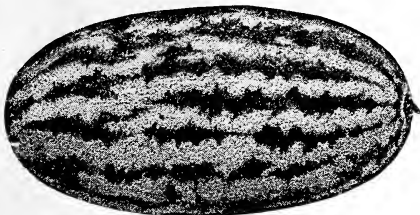
During the last two years a great many growers of watermelons for market have demanded another melon, claiming the Watson would not stand far distant shipping satisfactorily. During 1912 and 1913 I made numerous trial tests of a number of supposed new varieties, but none proved satisfactory excepting the "Excel." After my trials with this melon in 1913 I concluded to put out several hundred acres to the "Excel" in 1914 for market, and the results of this crop was so satisfactory, and the melons pleased my customers so well, that I do not hesitate to recommend this melon as a market sort to every planter of melons. In fact, it will produce more large marketable melons under the same condition than any of the other sorts of the long variety, and its carrying and keeping qualities are unsurpassed.

"EXCEL" produces melons eighteen to twenty-two inches long by twelve to sixteen inches in diameter, and weighing from forty to sixty pounds; the dark green rind, indistinctly striped with a shade lighter green, is tough and easily withstands far distant shipment. The deep red flesh is crisp, melting and of finest flavor, entirely free from core or hard centers, heart large and very firm with unusually small seed cavity.

**SPECIAL NOTICE.**—In perfecting the type of this melon, there was intentionally bred into it two colors of seed (white with black tips and dark seed). While one melon will not have two colors of seed in it yet each of the two colors produces melons exactly alike in every respect; this was done to bring together new blood which assures the very finest specimens. I mention this that you will not question the quality when you receive the seed mixed with two colors.

For prices see page 10.

## **ALABAMA SWEET.**



**Alabama Sweet.**

sweet and luscious, entirely stringless and very firm. The seeds are white, slightly tipped with brown, and are firmly set in small cavities near the rind.

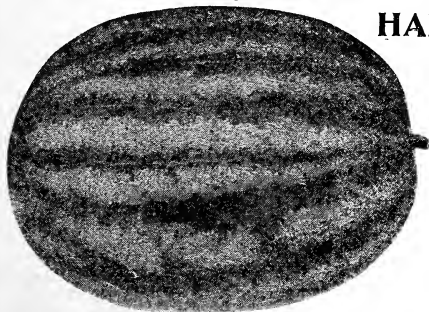
My crops this year were as fine as I believe it is possible to grow. I saved especially for stock seed a considerable quantity of this seed from 35- to 40-pound melons.

For prices see page 10.

This is a very popular watermelon, no doubt it is more universally grown than any other sort. Dark green skin, thin rind; flesh bright scarlet, solid, very sweet and crisp; not a good shipper for long distance. The fruits are oblong and uniform in size; seeds cream with an occasional seed smeared with brown.

Many large Southern growers report that the finest crops grown in their districts were from my seeds.

See page 21 for special stock seed.

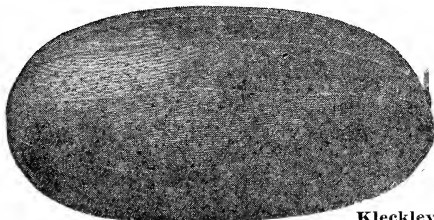


**Harris' Earliest.**

This is a fine shipper. My seeds are planted extensively by many of the most successful Texas and other Southern melon growers.

The rind is dark green marked with still deeper green mottled stripe, and while thin, it is very tough, making the melon a first-class shipper. The flesh is bright red, fine-grained,

## **KLECKLEY SWEET.**



For prices see page 10.

**Kleckley Sweet.**

## **HARRIS' EARLIEST.**

An extra early melon of excellent quality; fruits larger than any other extra early sort; slightly oval with broad bands of mottled stripes light and dark green. Flesh bright red, and very tender, vines very vigorous and productive. Not a good shipper. Seed black.

For prices see page 10.

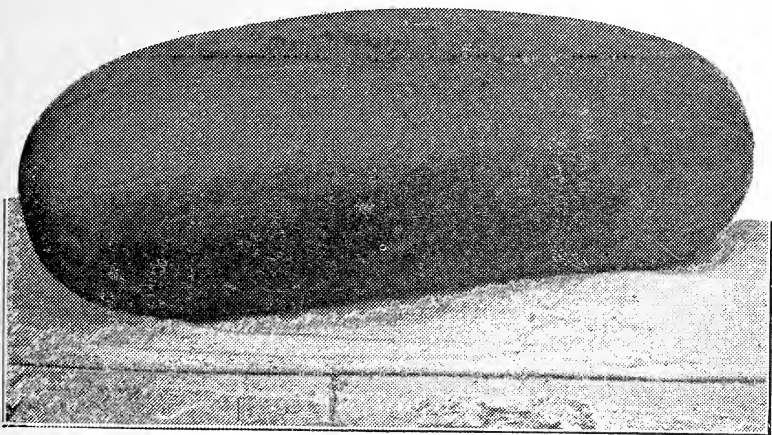
For the benefit and convenience of those who would like to have an assortment of melon seed of the different varieties, I am pleased to offer the varieties listed below, and allow very liberal discounts where orders call for more than 100 pounds. These prices are net f. o. b. Monticello, Florida, and if you would prefer the seed shipped by mail, you must include sufficient to pay postage. Refer to table of Parcel Post Zones for rates, page 7.

#### STANDARD VARIETIES AND WHOLESALE DISCOUNTS.

	1 to 100 lbs.	100 to 500 lbs.	Over 500 lbs.
Excel (New) .....	90c	80c	70c
Tom Watson .....	40c	36c	32c
Gilbert's Success .....	40c	36c	32c
Kleckley's Sweet .....	40c	36c	32c
Alabama Sweet .....	40c	36c	32c
Florida Favorite .....	35c	32c	28c
Angel's Kiss .....	35c	32c	28c
Augusta Rattlesnake .....	35c	32c	28c
Halbert's Honey .....	40c	36c	32c
Sweetheart .....	35c	32c	28c
Duke Jones .....	35c	32c	28c
Cole's Early .....	35c	32c	28c
McIver's Sugar .....	35c	32c	28c
Mountain Sweet .....	35c	32c	28c
Triumph .....	35c	32c	28c
Mammoth Ironclad .....	35c	32c	28c
Kolb's Gem .....	35c	32c	28c
Gray Monarch .....	35c	32c	28c
Improved Kolb Gem.....	35c	32c	28c
Fordhook Early .....	35c	32c	28c
Cuban Queen .....	35c	32c	28c
Round Light Icing .....	35c	32c	28c
Ice Cream .....	35c	32c	28c
Harris' Earliest .....	35c	32c	28c
Golden Honey (Yellow Flesh).....	40c	36c	32c
Dixie .....	35c	32c	28c

See page 21 for special stock seed.





## TOM WATSON

**TOM WATSON.**—There has been no watermelon ever introduced that sprung into popular favor so quickly as the Tom Watson. It is the watermelon of today and for the future, as it possesses all the fine qualities of a perfect variety, both as to its productiveness, quality and for shipping to distant markets without damage. Its size ranges from eighteen to twenty-four inches long by ten to twelve inches in diameter, and weighs from 30 to 50 pounds. Color dark green rind, deep sparkling red flesh which extends close to the rind, free from core, crisp, melting and of the finest quality. It always commands the highest market prices.

For prices see page 10.

**NOTE.**—There was some complaint last season on account of the Tom Watson melon arriving at the markets in a decayed condition, but this will apply to all varieties of watermelon that are not handled and packed carefully. To my own knowledge the Tom Watson melon will ship a great distance satisfactorily if carefully handled and properly graded and packed. I have shipped this melon from Florida as far as British Columbia, and they arrived in good condition. I am aware that climatic conditions govern to a degree the hardness of the rind and flesh, but where good seed are used and the land well fertilized and cultivated, and melons properly handled and packed, I am sure the Tom Watson will give perfect satisfaction.

My entire plantings for market next season will be Tom Watson and Excel.

## TESTIMONIALS

I DON'T care to bore you with these letters, but feel sure that you would get some satisfaction out of them if you will only read the few that I have produced here, of several hundred I have on file:

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: The sample of watermelon seed (Excel) you sent was planted with excellent results; the fruit was extremely large and superior to all other varieties we planted last season; the flesh was fine in texture and of delicious flavor.

Yours very truly,  
KENEDY PASTURE CO.,  
By CHAS. FEIDEL, Gardener,  
Sarita, Texas.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: Melon seed (Excel) was planted by Jno. Sublet, McLean, Tex.: grew very fine melons. He reports ten melons to the vine, averaging 25 pounds each; rich, red heart and sweet; tough rind; will stand handling.

Yours truly,  
HESBUN LUMBER CO.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: The sample of melon seed (Excel) was tried out thoroughly this spring. The melon is similar to Alabama Sweet in shipping qualities; in fact it has all that is needed as a shipper; in flavor it is superior to the Alabama Sweet; bright and red, solid flesh. I consider this melon O. K. By referring to your book you will see that we ordered Tom Watson seed from you. We grew extra fine large melons and the seed was the best I ever ordered from a grower.

Yours truly,  
J. C. THOMAS,  
Murchison, Tex.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: The sample of melon seed (Excel) was planted April 14th. A short time afterwards there came a flood and washed them away. I only had 4 seed left and, June 5th, planted these and got 4 vines, which produced 4 melons weighing about 30 pounds each, and there was no rain from the time they were planted till they matured. You have a very valuable melon.

Yours truly,  
D. R. McMASTER,  
McDade, Tex.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: Beg to advise that the melon seed purchased from you last spring (Tom Watson) produced a crop which was entirely satisfactory.

Yours truly,  
ENGLISH & OLIVER,  
Mount Olive, N. C.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: In regard to the sample watermelon seed furnished me by you (Excel). I consider this a very fine melon; it grows to good size, easily running 35 to 45 pounds; has nice shape and appearance, and the most prolific melon I ever grew; the flesh firm, sweet and free from coarseness, and ripens very uniformly. I consider it hard to beat in any respect.

Yours truly,  
A. H. OLIVER,  
R. F. D. No. 2,  
Mount Olive, N. C.



## TESTIMONIALS—Continued

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: I bought some Tom Watson seed from you last spring, and I am pleased to say that it proved quite satisfactory. I met you in Thomasville, Ga., last summer, and I saw several fields of the Excel in that territory that were the finest I ever saw.

Yours respectfully,

H. L. BROWN,  
Poseyville, Ind.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: The Tom Watson melon seed I got from you were very fine. I don't think they can be beat, and will be in the market next spring for more seed from you.

Yours for business,

FRANK SHELTON,  
Vallonia, Ind.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: The Tom Watson is the best melon we have raised here yet; grows large and fine shape and yields well. I have bought my melon seed of you for several years and find them the best I can get and your prices are lower than any other seed grower.

Yours truly,

I. W. BURCHAM,  
Vallonia, Ind.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: The melon seed (Tom Watson) we bought of you last spring were very satisfactory and we will be in the market again for your seed.

Yours truly,

TATUM BROS.,  
Clarkton, Mo.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: I believe the new big melon would be a success here (Excel). We raised some very fine melons from the sample seed sent last spring.

Yours truly,

ASA BOMER,  
Morley, Mo.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: Answering your favor of the 17th October, the Tom Watson melon seed purchased from you last season gave good satisfaction.

Yours truly,

GARNER & RIDDLE,  
Rush Springs, Okla.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: I am still depending on taking the — thousand pounds Tom Watson melon seed. Please send a bag along that I may see just how they run. The seed you sent me this year were entirely satisfactory. Those I bought afterwards from seed houses were everything but right; did not have the color to them that your seed had. Later: I am in receipt of the bag of Tom Watson seed. I am using them for samples and am very much pleased with the appearance. They have the same color they had last year.

Respectfully,

IRVING CULVER,  
Delmar, Del.

## TESTIMONIALS—Continued

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: The Tom Watson melon seed bought from you produced very fine melons.

Yours truly,  
GEO. W. GILMORE,  
Samson, Ala.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: The melon seed purchased from you were all O. K., and will buy from you again next season.

Yours truly,  
J. W. KIMBROUGH,  
Lakeland, Fla.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: The Tom Watson melon seed bought from you was absolutely true to name, and my crop was the best that I have ever made; loaded the first car that was loaded at Oxford with only 780 melons, and they all grew large.

Yours truly,  
W. F. LEE,  
Oxford, Fla.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: Your sample of melon seed (Excel) was received and planted, and I would certainly advise everyone to use the variety you sent me, which proved to be very fine indeed.

Yours truly,  
J. Q. SMITH,  
Center Hill, Fla.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: In regard to the new melon (Excel) I planted the seed on very poor land, and the season was bad, but they are a very fine melon; a heavy bearer, fine flavored and good shape, and grow larger than the Watson and believe a fine shipper. If I plant melons next season, will plant this new melon.

Yours truly,  
J. M. TESTERMAN,  
Umatilla, Fla.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: With regard to the new melon (Excel) have to say: Even under very unfavorable conditions it proved to be all right. I believe it is superior to the Watson. I would like to get some of this seed next season.

Yours truly,  
W. P. SHETTLEWORTH,  
Evinston, Fla.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: Your melon seed proved to be the best of all others in this section.

Yours truly,  
F. W. VARN,  
Groveland, Fla.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: With reference to the Tom Watson melon seed bought from you last spring, will say that it was very satisfactory; melons were true to type and the fewest melons left in the field of any crop; practically all melons grew to market size.

Yours truly,  
L. R. SEALY,  
Bowling Green, Fla.

## TESTIMONIALS—Continued

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: The melon seed (Tom Watson) I got from you last season gave perfect satisfaction. I have never planted better, had less rots and made better melons than any I had from any seed house before.

Yours truly,

J. E. SWANSON,  
Lakland, Fla.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: I never planted seed that gave as good results as the melon seed I bought from you in the spring of 1914. They were the pure Tom Watson.

Yours truly,

DANIEL HOLLINGER,  
Altoona, Fla.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: I was well pleased with the Tom Watson melon seed I bought from you last spring. They were the very best quality and produced the very finest melons.

Very truly,

J. T. UNDERWOOD,  
Morvin, Ga.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: I planted your melon seed this year (Tom Watson) and got good yield. The melons were large, perfect shape and color; other parties bought seed from other firms that was not near as pure and good as yours.

Yours very truly,

J. E. BRYAN,  
Shingler, Ga.

Mr. D. H. Gilbert,  
Monticello, Fla.

Dear Sir: I used from you last season several hundred pounds Tom Watson melon seed, and found them to be all right and gave perfect satisfaction, and if I grow melons again next year will be glad to get your seed.

Yours truly,

J. N. McKINZIE,  
Pelham, Ga.

## TAKE NOTICE

DO NOT plant on land where melons were grown before, even if several years before, if you have other good land. The vines remove something from the soil not readily replaced, and following crops usually produce deformed melons with black or shriveled ends, even from the best of seed, while the same seed on adjoining land where melons have not been grown before will produce large melons of the finest quality.

DO NOT press on melons to see if they are ripe; this injures them and results in very poor melons.

## GILBERT'S "SUCCESS."



Gilbert's Success.

This new melon was offered by me in 1900 for advance trial, which has proven wonderfully popular with critical growers. This melon is a market sort, and for shipping is one of the best. It is **very prolific, very early** and of uniformly large size. It is a cross between the **Triumph and Sweetheart**.

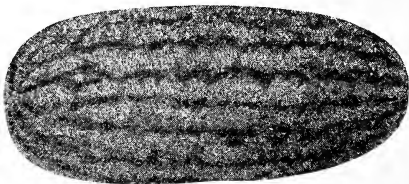
The rind, dark green, mottled, very handsome appearance. As a table melon I have seen no better. The average size of the melon is very large.

I gathered (notwithstanding the unfavorable season) from one acre 1,108 melons, weighing over 30 pounds each. Comparatively speaking, there were no small melons on the vines at the time of harvesting seed.

For prices see page 10.

## FLORIDA FAVORITE.

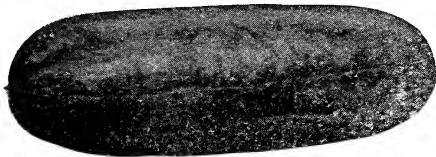
This is claimed to be a cross of the Pierson and Rattlesnake. It is of oblong shape, large size, rind dark, with light green stripes; flesh light crimson; very crisp and deliciously sweet, seed light creamy white color; one of the earliest and best melons grown.



Florida Favorite.

For prices see page 10.

## HALBERT HONEY.



Halbert's Honey.

quality and will be ordered extensively by those who know it best, which is the best recommendation that a melon can have.

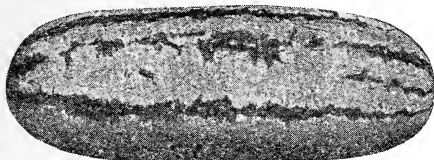
For prices see page 10.

See page 21 for special stock seed.

This melon is the same color and shape of the Kleckley Sweet, but is more tender. The melons split ahead of the knife when cut. The seeds, instead of being white, are a rather dull white with slightly brown tips.

It is of excellent

## **AUGUSTA RATTLESNAKE.**



**Augusta Rattlesnake.**

For prices see page 10.

This melon resembles very closely the old Georgia Rattlesnake. The color of the rind is identical, being a little difference in the shape growing not quite so long but somewhat thicker. Flesh solid, red and sweet. Seeds white with black tips.

## **IMPROVED KOLB GEM.**

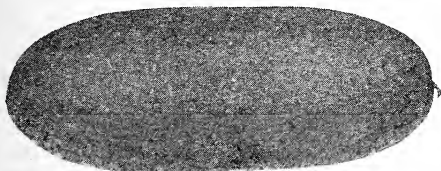
In general shape, size and appearance it is similar to the old-fashioned Kolb Gem, but is distinctively darker; it has a very firm hard rind and is a good shipper, flesh deep red extending near the rind, of good flavor. Seeds black.

For prices see page 10.



**Improved Kolb Gem.**

## **NEW ANGEL KISS.**



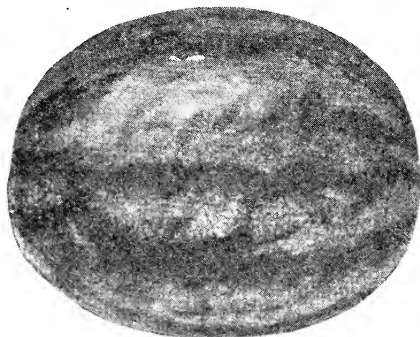
**Angel's Kiss.**

silver-gray, handsome and attractive. It is a very strong and vigorous grower. One distinct feature of this melon is that the flesh is a good deep red by the time the seeds are formed in it, often before the melon is really grown. It has few seeds, possibly less than any other watermelon. A splendid sort for home use.

For prices see page 10.

This variety originated in Texas, and its popularity has now extended throughout the entire country. It grows medium to very large in size, often weighing forty to sixty pounds, and twenty-five to thirty inches in length. The color is a





Cole's Early.

## COLE'S EARLY.

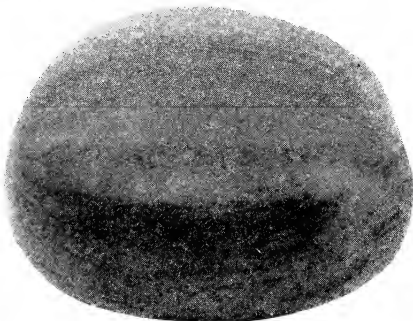
Strictly a home market melon almost round in shape, rind light green striped with broad bands of dark green. Vines very vigorous and productive; flesh bright red, crisp and delicate texture; seeds small black.

For prices see page 10.

## TRIUMPH.

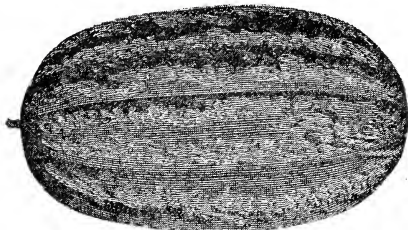
This is undoubtedly the largest melon grown, a first-class shipper and of excellent eating qualities. Many single specimens weigh 75 to 100 pounds, and one melon reached the enormous weight of 150 pounds. Fully equal in shipping qualities to the Kolb Gem, and vastly superior to it in every other particular. Color dark, glossy green; shape almost round, flesh bright red. My stock of seed is fancy select, therefore it is the very best obtainable.

For prices see page 10.



Triumph.

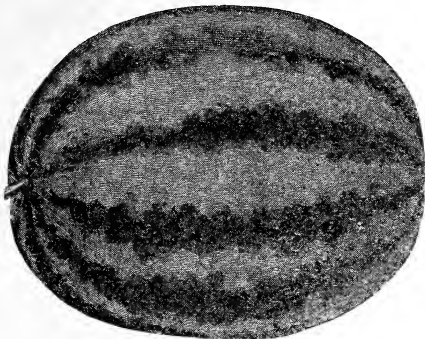
## DIXIE.



Dixie.

It is a cross between the Kolb Gem and old fashioned Mountain Sweet and surpasses the Kolb Gem in some respects, in shipping qualities, and fully equals the Mountain Sweet in fine eating qualities and flavor, and is ten days earlier than either. It has a remarkable thin rind, almost impenetrable which preserves it for a great length of time. Its great productiveness is shown from the fact that it frequently matures three to five large melons to the vine, the vines grow strong and rapidly with more laterals than any other melon. The meat is fine, rich scarlet and of very superior quality.

For prices see page 10.



**Duke Jones.**

## **DUKE JONES.**

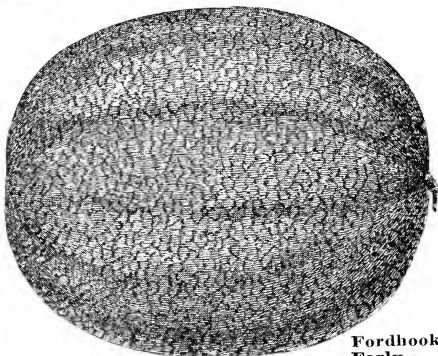
Rind dark green slightly striped with lighter green, almost round in shape, flesh bright red, not a long distance shipper, seeds white with black tips and is usually productive.

For prices see page 10.

## **FORDHOOK EARLY.**

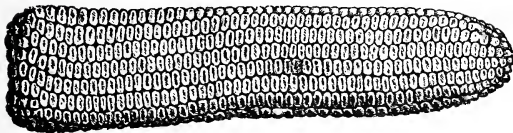
The fruits are of good size, rather short and blocky in form, skin dark mottled green, flesh bright red, crisp and of splendid quality. Rind thin; not a good shipper, seeds white.

For prices see page 10.



**Fordhook Early.**

## **POOR LAND CORN.**



**Poor Land Corn.**

A product of my own which I have succeeded in perfecting after years of careful selection from the choicest native Florida Flint Corn. By carefully

selecting the seed each year, carefully cultivating and allowing the blades to remain on the stalk until it was thoroughly matured, I have built up a strain of exceptionally fine **Poor Land Flint Corn**, large, strong growing plant, with luxuriant dark green leaves and large stalk. Ears large, with from 12 to 16 rows; kernels broad and long, cob medium size. It is decidedly the best, most prolific and hardy corn I have ever seen. Although I have had very adverse seasons, I have never known this corn to fail in making a heavy crop.  $\frac{1}{8}$  bushel, 40 cents;  $\frac{1}{4}$  bushel, 75 cents;  $\frac{1}{2}$  bushel, \$1.25;  $\frac{3}{4}$  bushel, \$1.75; bushel, \$2.00.

See page 21 for special stock seed.

# THE VELVET BEAN

Greatest producer of green forage and beans for stock feed in the world. Will produce two to three times as much vine and grain as the best and strongest growing varieties of the Cowpea. It should be a standard crop on every Southern farm. It will build up your soil quicker and give you a larger production than any other crop you can plant.

The Velvet Bean is now a standard plant for forage and soil renovation through the lower half of the South. Much has been said about this plant, and some outrageously false statements have been made as to its yielding several hundred bushels of shelled beans per acre. The sensible reader makes allowances for greatly exaggerated statements.

I have grown this bean for many years, and each year increases my belief that it is without exception the finest plant for soil renovation and stock feed, viewed from the standpoint of productiveness. All of our readers know the great value of cowpeas in adding to the fertility of the soil, when the crop is plowed under. The Velvet Bean will make three times the growth that the strongest-growing variety of the cowpeas will, and consequently is worth about three times as much for soil improvement as a cowpea crop. I advise a general planting of it on all farming lands where the owners wish to build up the soil. It is thoroughly adapted for growth in all the Southern States, and for soil improvement, I can recommend it unreservedly to our friends in all of the Southern States.

As a soil enricher I believe it has no equal; and I consider a good crop of Velvet Beans turned under on an acre of ground equal in value to two tons of an average grade of good commercial fertilizer. It is immensely prolific, the pods being borne in large clusters, I having counted as high as seventeen large, well-filled pods in a single cluster. Where it has a chance to climb it will grow 40 to 50 feet in a season, and makes an excellent shade for porches or arbors.

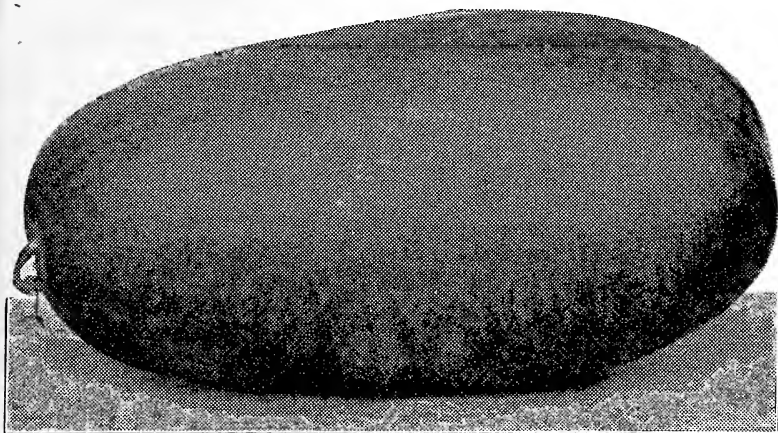
The Velvet Bean is one of the nitrogen-gathering plants, and all that has been said in favor of the use of cowpeas as a soil enricher can be repeated with the added statement that it is two or three times better.

To get the best results it should be planted as soon as danger of frost is past at the rate of one peck per acre, in rows six feet apart. As the seed is very hard, soaking for 24 hours before planting is advisable.

$\frac{1}{8}$  bushel, 50c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  bushel, 80c,  $\frac{1}{2}$  bushel, \$1.50; bushel, \$2.75.

(These prices subject to change account short crop.)





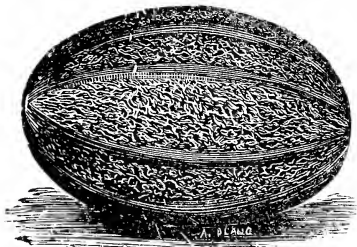
## TOM WATSON—SPECIAL

**T**HE above photograph was taken from a Tom Watson melon weighing 78 pounds and was selected from a lot that had been collected from which to save **seed stock**, and I doubt if there was a melon in the whole lot that weighed less than 40 pounds. I practice this method of saving seed for planting each year, and having such a fine lot this year, I concluded to save several hundred pounds, and offer it to those who would care to pay the small difference in cost of saving the seed which was only 10 cents per pound. The stock is the same as that of the Watson offered on page 11, but as stated it is from the very select specimens only. You might look the world over and I doubt if you would find as nice select lot of seed as this I am offering, regardless of the price asked. As long as my supply lasts I offer it at 50 cents per pound, any quantity. Can also furnish seed saved the same way of some of the other varieties, subject to being unsold—Alabama Sweet, Kleckley Sweet, Florida Favorite, Rattlesnake and Halbert Honey at 50 cents per pound, and Excel at \$1.00 per pound.

No discount allowed on this seed.

## MUSKMELONS.

Most fashionable Cantaloupe on the American market. For the convenience of my customers I offer two strains of the Rocky Ford Melon seed; both are strictly pure Rocky Ford Melon; but one strain is grown in Rocky Ford, Colorado, the other is not; each, therefore, is exactly what it appears to be; although on my trial grounds I find no great difference between them; each is merely an improved form of the old Netted Gem.



**The Great Rocky Ford Muskmelon.**

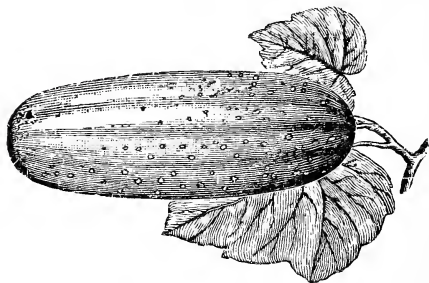
the whole fashionable world by storm, and for several years have been in brisk demand in all choice markets.

Some dealers desire an extra price for Netted Gem seed raised in Colorado; it does cost a little more to raise seed in Rocky Ford than in the South, but the increase is not so great that the seed can not be sold at reasonable figures. My arrangements have been made with one of the most prominent growers there, who has grown my supply of seed, selected only from the very best and finest melons, and a strain that can be depended upon to equal, if not surpass, any melon seed grown in the state of Colorado. I offer this seed to my customers at the following reasonable figures: Pound, 90 cents; 10 pounds, 85 cents; 100 pounds, 75 cents.

**ROCKY FORD NETTED GEM** (Southern grown): Pound, 75 cents; 10 pounds, 70 cents; 100 pounds, 60 cents.

## CUCUMBERS.

Extra selected stock. A marked improvement over all other strains of White Spine, and since its introduction a few years ago it has proven a most profitable variety with all truckers who have



**Peerless White Spine.**

grown it, bringing better prices in the Philadelphia, Boston and New York markets than any other variety. The vine is very hardy, and its earliness has been developed until the first fruit is ready for shipment a week or more in advance of the best White Spine. The color is a clear, rich green, brilliant and permanent to an extraordinary degree. Its shapely form is well shown

in photograph. In productiveness it ranks first, the cucumbers being set in profusion, close to the hill, and of unequalled symmetry and uniformity. While this is the best sort for market and shipping, there is no better variety for the home garden. Pound, 80 cents; 10 pounds, 75 cents; 100 pounds, 65 cents.

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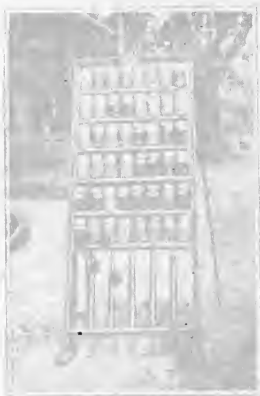


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